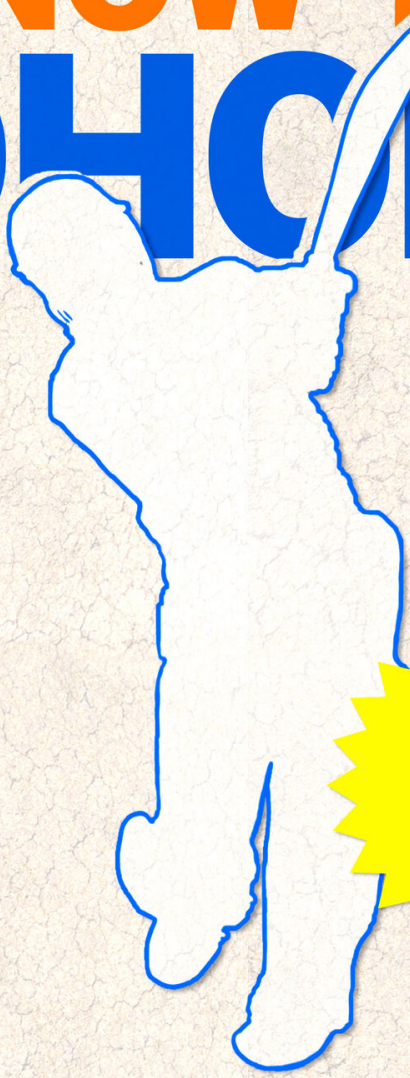
KNOW THY DHONI

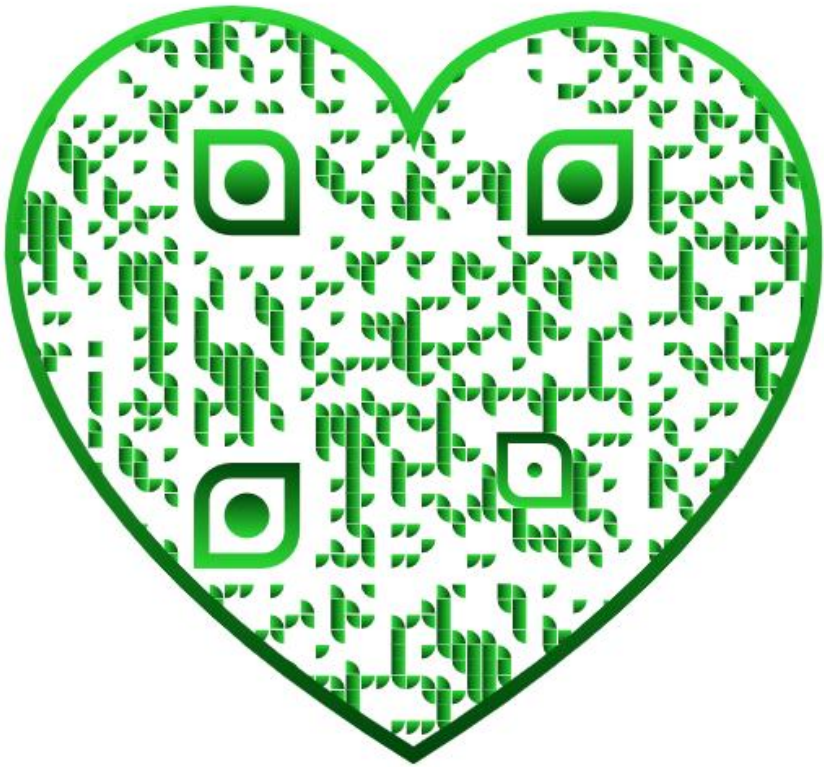


OVER
400
QUESTIONS
& STORIES ABOUT
M.S. DHONI

BLUE PENCIL

ANIKET MISHRA

FOREWORD BY JOY BHATTACHARJYA



KNOW
DH

KNOW THY DHONI

BLUE PENCIL
A Venture of Wisitech InfoSolutions Pvt Ltd
76/2, 3rd Floor, East of Kailash, New Delhi - 110065
Ph: + 011.4651.6521, 4162.4097
Email: sales@bluepencilpublishers.com
www.bluepencilpublishers.com

Copyright © Aniket Mishra 2020
First published by Blue Pencil 2020
Aniket Mishra asserts the moral right to be identified as the author of this work.

Fact Checking - Amit Sinha
Cover Design - Neelesh Vineet Saran

The views and opinions expressed in this work are the author's own and the facts are as reported by him, and the publisher is in no way liable for the same.

All rights are reserved.

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without prior permission of the author.

FOR MAA AND PAPA

Aniket Mishra

An MPhil in Comparative Literature from University of Delhi, Aniket currently works for the Asian Football Confederation. He was Head of Media for the Local Organising Committee of the U-17 World Cup in India, which in October 2017 became the most attended youth FIFA tournament ever. Correspondingly, he also worked on the 2018 Club World Cup and the 2019 Asian Cup.

An avid quizzer and reader of all-things-sports, he is the founder of the Barefoot Sports Quizzing Festival, which has hosted 14 editions since its inception in 2012.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Foreword
- Chapter 1
- Chapter 2
- Chapter 3
- Chapter 4
- Chapter 5
- Chapter 6
- Chapter 7
- Chapter 8
- Chapter 9
- Chapter 10
- Chapter 11
- Chapter 12
- Chapter 13
- Chapter 14
- Chapter 15
- Chapter 16
- Chapter 17
- Chapter 18
- Chapter 19
- Chapter 20
- Chapter 21
- Chapter 22
- Chapter 23
- Chapter 24
- Chapter 25
- Chapter 26
- Chapter 27
- Chapter 28

- Chapter 29
- Chapter 30
- Chapter 31
- Chapter 32
- Chapter 33
- Chapter 34
- Chapter 35
- Chapter 36
- Chapter 37
- Chapter 38
- Chapter 39
- Chapter 40

FOREWORD

In the early 2000s, one of the most popular programs on the ESPN channel was the ESPN School Quiz Olympiad. And every year, almost a thousand schools would vie to qualify among the top 64 and win a ticket to Delhi for the television rounds.

It was usually the big cities and the big name schools that would make it through the written test. Imagine my surprise when an unknown school, Burnpur Riverside School from Bengal made it as one of the top qualifiers.

That was the first time I met Aniket Mishra, whose performance had single-handedly propelled his school to the television round. Riverside School did well, but not spectacularly, and later I discovered the reason. Aniket did not have a television set at home at the time. All his spectacular knowledge was from books and newspapers. We were absolutely stunned.

Aniket later came to Delhi for his further education and was probably the finest sports quizzer of his time and after a successful stint in journalism, joined the media team for the FIFA U17 World Cup, where he did wonders again with an amazing coverage record.

This book is a testament to a small town kid who made it really big, and who better to write it than another boy from a small town but with a lot of talent and very big dreams.

Enjoy the questions!

Joy Bhattacharjya

CHAPTER 1

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of bowlers who Dhoni hit a last ball six off, in ODIs

1. ANUWN SARAKELKUA
2. LSSERU RNAODL
3. MNALAS TBTU
4. HADNMSIA AAEGNR

D OUBLES

5. Against which team did Dhoni make his international debut?

6. Apart from the Chennai Super Kings, which other IPL team has Dhoni represented?

B OUNDARIES

7. At the 2019 IPL Final, which state teammate of his run him out, thus sparking a collapse against the eventual winners, Mumbai Indians?

8. Dhoni's breakthrough tour happened in August 2004, when he represented India A in Nairobi. Which contemporary wicket keeper of his was called up for national duties, thus paving the way for him to play the matches?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. In an IPL 12 fixture, with 8 runs needed off 3 balls to win, Dhoni

controversially walked on to the pitch to protest an umpiring decision. What team were CSK playing, and where was the match taking place?

10. The visual of an overjoyed Dhoni after winning the ICC Champions Trophy in 2013 has remained etched over time – who was the batsman who R. Ashwin bowled the last ball of the game to, though?

CHAPTER 1
ANSWERS

1. Nuwan Kulasekara
2. Russel Arnold
3. Salman Butt
4. Shaminda Eranga
5. Bangladesh
6. Rising Pune Supergiant/Supergiants
7. Ishan Kishan
8. Dinesh Karthik
9. Rajasthan Royals, Sawai Man Singh Stadium in Jaipur
10. James Tredwell

CHAPTER 2

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of cities where Dhoni scored a Test century

1. ALFIBASADA
2. NNICEAH
3. BAHAMAEDD
4. OAKTALK

D OUBLES

5. In his 5th ODI, Dhoni scored a swashbuckling 148; who were India's opponents in this game?

6. Who stepped down from Test captaincy to thrust Dhoni in to the role in 2008?

B OUNDARIES

7. Which English all-rounder eclipsed Dhoni, as the highest bid-for CSK player in 2009?

8. In what year, was Dhoni bestowed with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, the highest sporting award in the country?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Who was his first First Class dismissal? Coincidentally, 19 years later, he also scalped the player's son in an IPL game in Jaipur.

10. When Dhoni didn't get picked for the U-19 World Cup in 2000, who was India's designated wicket keeper?

In November 1984, as MECON Stadium in Shyamali Colony, Ranchi prepared to host its first Ranji Trophy match on a Turf wicket – Paan Singh Dhoni – MSD's father – was bestowed upon with the responsibility of watering the pitch and curating it over the course of the game. Since he used to live right across the ground, it has been acknowledged that this game, played between Bihar and Orissa is the first First Class game, young Mahendra attended.

CHAPTER 2
ANSWERS

1. Faisalabad
2. Chennai
3. Ahmedabad
4. Kolkata
5. Pakistan
6. Anil Kumble
7. Andrew Flintoff
8. 2007
9. Parag Das
10. Ajay Ratra

CHAPTER 3

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of captains Dhoni has played under, for India

1. ITHRO AAMRHS
2. LINA BKMUEL
3. LHAUR ADDRVI
4. TRVAI OIHKL

D OUBLES

5. At which station in West Bengal, was Dhoni a Train Ticket Examiner?

6. In which year did Dhoni lead the Chennai Super Kings to their first IPL Trophy?

B OUNDARIES

7. With which Sri Lankan captain did Dhoni stitch a 218 run partnership for the 6 th wicket while playing for Asia XI against Africa XI in 2007?

8. Dhoni holds the record for most appearances in IPL finals (till 2019); how many has he featured in?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Who is Dhoni the bowler's only international wicket?

10. Dhoni has only played one match for CSK, with someone else captaining the team. Who was the fixture against?

CHAPTER 3
ANSWERS

1. Rohit Sharma
2. Anil Kumble
3. Rahul Dravid
4. Virat Kohli
5. Kharagpur
6. 2010
7. Mahela Jayawardene
8. 9 (8 for CSK, 1 for RPS)
9. Travis Dowlin
10. Yorkshire (in Champions League 2012 at Durban)

CHAPTER 4

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Orange/Purple Cap Holders who played under Dhoni at CSK

1. ACHEMIL ESSYUH
2. ITMHO RMAAHS
3. YWDNEA ROBVA
4. MRAIN RTHIA

D OUBLES

5. Against which team did Dhoni score a swashbuckling 183 in an ODI in 2005?

6. If 2010 was the first time CSK won the Champions League T20, when did their second and final triumph happen?

B OUNDARIES

7. Which CSK teammate of Dhoni's recorded a haul of 8 for 10 on his First Class debut?

8. How many batting positions has Dhoni scored a half century from, batting in the IPL?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. A childhood friend of his was instrumental in Dhoni picking up his signature 'Helicopter Shot'. He unfortunately succumbed to Pancreatitis in

2013. What was his name?

10. In 2004, Dhoni was selected to be part of a team which also had Pravin Amre, Subroto Banerjee, Iqbal Siddiqui, Nikhil Chopra, Debasis Mohanty, for which exhibition tournament?

Young Mahi, like many of us would switch off the TV after Sachin got out in the 1990s.

In fact during the 1992 World Cup, with the matches being hosted in Australia and New Zealand and thus starting really early in India, he would ask his mother to wake him up only when the little master would start batting, and would later promptly go back to sleep after his idol was dismissed.

CHAPTER 4
ANSWERS

1. Michael Hussey
2. Mohit Sharma
3. Dwayne Bravo
4. Imran Tahir
5. Sri Lanka
6. 2014
7. Deepak Chahar
8. Five (3, 4, 5, 6 and 7) – he is the only player to hold this distinction in IPL history
9. Santosh Lal
10. Hong Kong Super Sixes

CHAPTER 5

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from the 2011 World Cup Final

1. TMUAGA IRMAHGB
2. EEZHRA HNKA
3. NSCHIA NUKLADTER
4. ANETSHERS

DOUBLES

5. Who did the Dhoni led CSK lose the first IPL final against?

6. At which venue in Pakistan did Dhoni score his first Test hundred?

BOUNDARIES

7. Name the Jharkhand teammate of Dhoni who was retained by CSK ahead of the 2020 IPL auctions.

8. Which batsman got dismissed, which led to Dhoni stepping out to bat at number four the first time in ODIs against Pakistan in 2005 at Vishakhapatnam?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. In 2005, Dhoni played in a set of invitational matches for the Bradman XI. In the opening match against KSCA (Karnataka State Cricket Association), he opened the batting with which former Australian great?

10. Of the 50 matches in which Dhoni remained unbeaten for India in a ODI chase, how many did India win?

CHAPTER 5
ANSWERS

1. Gautam Gambhir
2. Zaheer Khan
3. Sachin Tendulkar
4. Sreesanth
5. Rajasthan Royals
6. Faisalabad
7. Monu Singh
8. Sachin Tendulkar
9. Dean Jones
10. 47

CHAPTER 6

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of teams CSK has lost an IPL Knock Out match to

1. ASHTRAJAN ALYSOR
2. ALORY ALLERGENSCH AARENGLOB
3. AIMMBU ADINNIS
4. OAKTALK DERKSHIRTING

D OUBLES

5. Who was the coach of India when the Dhoni led team won the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup?

6. In which year was Dhoni bestowed with the Padma Bhushan?

B OUNDARIES

7. In 2009, Dhoni led India to a test series win in New Zealand. Who was the last Indian skipper to achieve the same?

8. Against which country did India lose a Test match under Dhoni for the first time?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. There are two members in the 2020 CSK squad who were part of the Indian team which won both the T20 World Cup in 2007 and the 50 Over World Cup in 2011. If one in Dhoni, who is the other?

10. Dhoni’s highest partnership in Tests came in Kolkata against South Africa in 2010. With which batsman did he share a 259-run stand with?

In 1998, Dhoni was offered a stipend of ₹2200 by Central Coalfields Limited in Ranchi to play cricket for them. That was his first full time source of income.

With the money, as meagre as it was, he did what most teenage boys would do – bought himself a secondhand bike to relish his newfound financial stability to the fullest! He owns some of the fanciest automobiles now, but his garage still has that two-wheeler which he bought at the age of 18.

CHAPTER 6
ANSWERS

1. Rajasthan Royals
2. Royal Challengers Bangalore
3. Mumbai Indians
4. Kolkata Knight Riders
5. Gary Kirsten
6. 2018
7. Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi Jr
8. South Africa
9. Piyush Chawla
10. VVS Laxman

CHAPTER 7

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from Rising Pune Supergiant

1. JONMO AIRYWT
2. HRULA ATRIPHIT
3. AKINJAY ARNEAH
4. ADJEVY AKDAUNT

D OUBLES

5. Against which team did the Dhoni led Indian team open their 2011 World Cup campaign against?

6. Which song did Dhoni use in the video to announce his retirement from international cricket in August 2020?

B OUNDARIES

7. Against which country did Dhoni score his second and last T20 international half century?

8. MS Dhoni's 224 is the highest score by an Indian wicket keeper in Test matches. Who, with an innings of 192 lies second in the list?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. In the 2011 Barbados Test, Dhoni was wrongly adjudged out after the broadcasters showed a previous delivery for the no-ball review. Who was

the bowler, who had overstepped but claimed the scalp regardless?

10. If it was Gameplan Sports from 2005-08, Mindscapes Maestros from 2008-10, what firm has it been from 2010-till date? Also, what are we talking about here?

CHAPTER 7
ANSWERS

1. Manoj Tiwary
2. Rahul Tripathi
3. Ajinkya Rahane
4. Jaydev Unadkat
5. Bangladesh
6. *Main pal do pal ka shayar hun*
7. South Africa
8. Budhi Kunderan
9. Fidel Edwards
10. Rhiti Sports (agencies managing Dhoni)

CHAPTER 8

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of authors of books on Dhoni

1. UULG EEIKZLE
2. AHABRT ADANNURSES
3. FRISTU ARAHES
4. ABIDEPEWS HOGSH

D OUBLES

5. Who captained Dhoni in the only IPL season that he was chosen to not lead his team?

6. Which popular Indian entertainment channel voted Dhoni as the country's youth icon in 2006?

B OUNDARIES

7. Which former President of Pakistan, in a post-match ceremony complimented Dhoni for his hairstyle and persuaded him to not cut his then long locks?

8. At which stadium did the Dhoni led Indian team lift the 2007 T20 World Cup in?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Which cricketer's dismissal, who later went on to coach Australia, preceded Dhoni facing his first ball in international cricket?

10. Four times, in the history of the IPL have CSK bowlers won the purple cap – who is the only Indian recipient in this list of 4 entries, someone who also played for India under Dhoni?

Getting overshadowed by a future-teammate

In the Cooch Behar Trophy final of the 1999-2000 season that was held at the Keenan Stadium, Jamshedpur, Bihar batting first managed to put on 357. Dhoni scored 84 off 137 – not a bad effort, but he and his teammates were completely blown away by Punjab's captain, a certain Yuvraj Singh who scored a mammoth 358. Dhoni never got to bat in the second innings, thus hindering whatever chance he might have had of getting selected for the India U-19 World Cup Squad for the ICC U-19 World Cup held in England in 2000.

CHAPTER 8
ANSWERS

1. Gulu Ezekiel
2. Bharat Sundaresan
3. Sfurti Sahare
4. Biswadeep Ghosh
5. Steve Smith
6. MTV
7. Pervez Musharraf
8. The Wanderers in Johannesburg
9. Sridharan Sreeram
10. Mohit Sharma

CHAPTER 9

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from the Afro-Asian Cup in 2007

1. AFRAHEMS AMTZORA
2. ADHARLI ADORNFEN
3. LPUU AAHGRANT
4. DOHMAMMA AIFQUER

DOUBLES

5. The tale of his sports teacher asking him to leave Football and pursue Cricket is well known; what position did he play in the beautiful game though?

6. At which venue did Dhoni list his highest Test Score?

BOUNDARIES

7. Which former teammate of Dhoni, after his retirement has been his coach at the Chennai Super Kings?

8. Which frontline bowler had an over left in his quota, when Dhoni handed the ball to Joginder Sharma in the 2007 ICC T20 World Cup Final?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Who was the bowler when Dhoni played his last ball in international cricket?

10. Which company, owned by Dhoni has been CSK's official kit manufacturer, since 2018?

CHAPTER 9
ANSWERS

1. Mashrafe Mortaza
2. Dilhara Fernando
3. Upul Tharanga
4. Mohammad Rafique
5. Goalkeeper
6. Chepauk, Chennai
7. Stephen Fleming
8. Harbhajan Singh
9. Lockie Ferguson
10. Seven

CHAPTER 10

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from the 2007 World Cup Final

1. DRAUR AATRP HGSNI
2. FRANI NAATHP
3. DREGJNOI MSAHAR
4. ARABHAHNJ HINGS

DOUBLES

5. Which two seasons of the IPL did the Chennai Super Kings miss out on, because of the fixing scandal?

6. Dhoni holds the distinction of affecting most stumpings in international cricket; which Sri Lankan wicket keeper's record did he break?

BOUNDARIES

7. What mode of dismissal were common to Dhoni's first and last outings in ODIs?

8. Which was the only IPL season in which CSK finished 4th after the Group Stages?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. With which compatriot of his, did Dhoni stitch together a 256-run partnership against England in Cuttack, in January, 2017?

10. Under Dhoni, India played out a tie in the 2011 World Cup against England. Who bowled the crucial last over for the hosts in this game?

Dhoni was included in the East Zone side in the 2001 Duleep Trophy, for a match at Agartala. With little time left to join the team for the flight from Kolkata, his friends pooled in money and hired a car to try and ensure their friend made it in time to the airport.

However, the car broke down on the highway between Ranchi and Kolkata, and Dhoni couldn't make it in time for his flight. Deep Dasgupta played the match as East Zone's designated wicket keeper against South Zone.

CHAPTER 10
ANSWERS

1. Rudra Pratap Singh
2. Irfan Pathan
3. Joginder Sharma
4. Harbhajan Singh
5. 2016 and 2017
6. Kumar Sangakkara
7. Run Out
8. 2012
9. Yuvraj Singh
10. Munaf Patel

CHAPTER 11

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from his ODI debut

1. ITJA KRRAAGA
2. ORUSVA LUNGGAY
3. JVAYRU IHNGS
4. ADRAINHRS MARRIS

D OUBLES

5. How many tests did Dhoni captain India in?

6. India won the Asia Cup twice under Dhoni's captaincy – if the first win came in 2010, when was the other instance?

B OUNDARIES

7. Dhoni captained India in tests under the reigns of two coaches. If Gary Kirsten was one, who was the other?

8. Dhoni finished with 38 stumpings in his Test career – he thus jointly holds the India record for the same with which other former great?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Having lost 15 Test matches, Dhoni had the worst record as captain of India's side in matches overseas. Which three other captains come next in that ignominious list with 10 losses each?

10. How many ODIs did Dhoni play before making his Test debut? Coincidentally, he also scored the same number of runs in that match at Chennai.

CHAPTER 11
ANSWERS

1. Ajit Agarkar
2. Sourav Ganguly
3. Yuvraj Singh
4. Sridharan Sriram
5. Sixty (60)
6. 2016
7. Duncan Fletcher
8. Syed Kirmani
9. Md Azharuddin, Sourav Ganguly and MAK Pataudi
10. Thirty (30)

CHAPTER 12

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of bowlers Dhoni faced in his record breaking Test Innings of 224

1. AHTANN OLNY
2. CHEMLILT ASCRT
3. ETPER DDSELI
4. EMSISO ENQUIRESH

D OUBLES

5. Which Indian Super League team does Dhoni co-own?

6. In what year was Dhoni bestowed with India's third highest civilian honor, the Padma Bhushan?

B OUNDARIES

7. How many matches did he go undefeated as India's Test captain before finally losing to South Africa at Nagpur in February 2010.

8. Former Bihar Cricket Association Vice President, Deval Sahay would find a mention in pretty much every biographical account of Dhoni. Which team did he pick the teenager to play for, thus handing him his first professional contract?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. When Dhoni scored 224 against Australia in February 2013, whose

record for the highest individual Test score by an Indian captain did he break?

10. Which Asia XI teammate of Dhoni dismissed him for a duck in India's first match in the 2007 World Cup?

After missing out on traveling to Agartala for the previous game, Dhoni managed to join the East Zone squad in Pune for the second match against West Zone in the 2001 Duleep Trophy. He wasn't included in the playing 11 but while carrying drinks, his boyhood idol, Sachin Tendulkar, who scored a match-winning 199 not out for West Zone, asked for some water from the youngster during one of the drinks break.

That, by his own admission was the first time he met the Little Master.

CHAPTER 12
ANSWERS

1. Nathan Lyon
2. Mithchell Starc
3. Peter Siddle
4. Moises Henriques
5. Chennaiyin FC
6. 2018
7. Eleven (11)
8. Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)
9. Sachin Tendulkar (217 vs New Zealand)
10. Mohammad Rafique

CHAPTER 13

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of stadiums where Dhoni has played an IPL Final or Champions League T20 Final in

1. ANDRESWRE
2. DEEN DANGERS
3. ANDEEKWH
4. CAYMANSWHIN

DOUBLES

5. How many times did Dhoni get out in the 90s while being India's Test captain?

6. Who did Dhoni take over the reign of the Indian ODI team, in 2007?

BOUNDARIES

7. When Dhoni retired from Tests, he had 27 wins as a captain. Who was the first Indian skipper (and the only one before Dhoni) to have more than 20 wins too?

8. Dhoni and Telugu actor A Nagarjuna jointly owned a team in the FIM Supersport World Championship. Aptly named after its passionate owner, what was it called?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni's innings of 224 against Australia in Chennai in February 2013

placed him third on the list of highest individual scores by wicket keepers in Tests. Which two players were placed above him then?

10. In 2017, Dhoni stumped Akila Dananjaya to afflict his 100th stumping in ODIs; who was the bowler who produced the wicket?

CHAPTER 13
ANSWERS

1. Wanderers
2. Eden Gardens
3. Wankhede
4. Chinnaswamy
5. Four (4)
6. Rahul Dravid
7. Sourav Ganguly
8. Mahi Racing Team India
9. Andy Flower (232 vs India at Nagpur in 2000) and Kumar Sangakkara (230 vs Pakistan at Lahore in 2002)
10. Yuzvendra Chahal

CHAPTER 14

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's teammates from the 2019 IPL Final

1. ADHURLS AHKURT
2. PEAKED ARCHAH
3. ARDIANRV ADJJEA
4. ABATIM RUDYUA

DOUBLES

5. How many sixes did Dhoni hit in his Test career?

6. Dhoni was the first person to be awarded the ICC ODI player of the year twice in a row, what years did he win it in?

BOUNDARIES

7. With which company was Dhoni employed with, after he quit the Railways and before he became Vice President of India Cements in 2013?

8. Now iconized because of its reference in '*M.S. Dhoni – The Untold Story* ', which hotel in Kolkata was Sakshi Dhoni an intern in?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Two other captains apart from Dhoni have had the misfortune of getting out/being stuck in the 90s 4 times in their Test Careers. Name them.

10. While Dhoni holds the record in ODIs, which Australian wicket keeper

holds the distinction of inflicting most stumpings in Test Matches?

Dhoni had a rather inauspicious start to his international career. On his ODI debut, he didn't list either a catch or a stumping, nor did he score a run (got run out off the only ball he faced). In fact, had it not been for that solitary ball that he faced, he would have pulled off what Jack MacBryan is infamously remembered for, in Test cricket – to have not batted, bowled or taken any catches on debut.

CHAPTER 14
ANSWERS

1. Shardul Thakur
2. Deepak Chahar
3. Ravindra Jadeja
4. Ambati Rayudu
5. Seventy Eight (78)
6. 2008 and 2009
7. Air India
8. Taj Bengal
9. Gary Sobers and Stephen Fleming
10. Bert Oldfield

CHAPTER 15

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of batsmen caught by Dhoni in his record-breaking effort – 7 catches and 4 stumping – in a match at Melbourne, 2014

1. HRSCI EGOSRR
2. ASHUN HARMS
3. DRAB DAHIND
4. ARNY ARIHRS

DOUBLES

5. What civilian honor was Dhoni bestowed with, by the Government of India in 2009?

6. In what year, the Dhoni led Indian team ascended to the number 1 ranking in Tests?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni's first test 100 came at Faisalabad in January 2006. How many balls did he take to reach the milestone?

8. When Dhoni was inducted in to the Territorial Army in November, 2011, which other Indian sportsperson was also conferred with the rank of honorary lieutenant colonel on the same day?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. In February 2018, Dhoni reached the milestone of 400 dismissals by stumping which South African top order batsman?

10. Which other keeper, apart from Dhoni has scored more than 10,000 runs in ODI cricket?

CHAPTER 15
ANSWERS

1. Chris Rogers
2. Shaun Marsh
3. Brad Haddin
4. Ryan Harris
5. Padma Shri
6. 2009
7. 93
8. Abhinav Bindra
9. Aiden Markram
10. Kumar Sangakkara (13,341 runs)

CHAPTER 16

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal the names of Dhoni's teammates from the Jharkhand Ranji Trophy team

1. ASBAHHZ AMENED
2. NRAUV ROANA
3. ARABUSH AITWRY
4. HIRIM ARKWADI

DOUBLES

5. In 2013, under Dhoni's captaincy, India became the first team in more than 40 years to whitewash which country in a Test series?

6. Who directed Dhoni's biopic, '*M.S. Dhoni, The Untold Story* '?

BOUNDARIES

7. In the 90 Tests that he played in, how many dismissals did Dhoni finish with?

8. Dhoni famously wreaked havoc in the P Sen Trophy organized by the Cricket Association of Bengal in 2005. Which team was he playing for?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. When Dhoni reached the milestone of 10,000 ODI runs, he became the fourth Indian to breach that figure. Which three players had achieved it before him?

10. During the Antigua test in 2006, Dhoni's flick off which bowler (caught on the boundary by Darren Ganga) sparked a heated exchange between the then West Indian captain Brian Lara and umpire Asad Rauf?

When the young boy from Ranchi debuted for India, he didn't pay much heed to the notion of eating clean. He maintained that he loved Butter Chicken and would feast on it every day for dinner – and while that might seem a stretch for many, it wasn't for young Mahi. An interview and a meet and greet with NDTV anchors and a few select fans of his from the mid-noughties stands out, when he ordered Butter Chicken for the table and explained the intricacies of the preparation.

By his own admission, he has given up on it now, and prefers the healthier grilled kebabs but perhaps as an ode to his younger self, his twitter bio still reads "perennially hungry for chicken butter masala".

CHAPTER 16
ANSWERS

1. Shahbaz Nadeem
2. Varun Aaron
3. Saurabh Tiwary
4. Mihir Diwakar
5. Australia
6. Neeraj Pandey
7. 294
8. Sporting Union
9. Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid
10. Dave Mohammed

CHAPTER 17

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of partners with whom Dhoni has stitched century partnerships in ODIs

1. ARVIT ILKOH
2. RHESUS AINRA
3. ARVBUSHWHEN AKRUM
4. HITOR AHARMS

D OUBLES

5. At which stadium did Dhoni make his First Class Debut?

6. Arun Pandey and which production network co-produced Dhoni's biopic, which was released in 2016?

B OUNDARIES

7. In the 2002-03 Duleep Trophy final, which then India international was Dhoni picked over to keep wickets?

8. Dhoni's 183 against Sri Lanka was the highest individual score in second innings of ODIs when it happened. Which future CSK teammate finally eclipsed it, 7 years later?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. After bowing out from the 2016 T20 World Cup Semi Final, which Australian journalist did Dhoni invite to the dais in the post-match Press

Conference?

10. Only eleven players have captained ten or more Tests playing as a wicket-keeper. Dhoni leads the table with 60 Tests as captain, 35 ahead of which other subcontinental keeper who is in second place?

CHAPTER 17
ANSWERS

1. Virat Kohli
2. Suresh Raina
3. Bhuvneshwar Kumar
4. Rohit Sharma
5. MECON Stadium (at the ground where he practically grew up)
6. FOX Star Studios
7. Deep Dasgupta
8. Shane Watson
9. Samuel Ferris
10. Mushfiqur Rahim

CHAPTER 18

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of wicket keepers who also played for India during Dhoni's career

1. MADRIDWHI AAHS
2. SHINED ARKKITH
3. BRIASHH NTAP
4. AVRITHP EPLAT

DOUBLES

5. Against which neighboring side, did Dhoni score his first First Class century against?

6. Which two teams did India lose to, at the 2006 ICC Champions trophy, which was Dhoni's first ICC event, to bow out early from the tournament?

BOUNDARIES

7. Which tennis ball team from Kharagpur was Dhoni a regular for?

8. Which batsman did Dhoni overtake to become number one in the ICC ODI Rankings for batsmen on 20 April 2006 becoming the fastest batsman to do so, in 42 innings?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. On February 12, 2012, Dhoni hit a massive 112 meter long six off which Australian bowler in the final over of an ODI chase to win India what was

the fourth ODI of the CB series?

10. Under Dhoni's captaincy, India played a series in the United States of America for the first time in 2016. What venue hosted these games against West Indies?

Tracer Bullet Beamers

Shoaib Akhtar, in a recent interview confessed that he intentionally bowled a beamer to Dhoni during the Faisalabad test in 2006. Being struck for three boundaries in an over, the eccentric fast bowler was clearly displeased, so much so, that he hurled in a 156.2 km per hour delivery at the then 24-year-old.

It flew past Dhoni's face, marginally missing it.

It was in the same innings in which the wicketkeeper-batsman notched up his first Test century – a charismatic 148, studded with 19 fours and 4 sixes.

CHAPTER 18
ANSWERS

1. Wriddhiman Saha
2. Dinesh Karthik
3. Rishabh Pant
4. Parthiv Patel
5. Bengal (in 2000-01 season)
6. West Indies and Australia
7. Durga Sporting
8. Ricky Ponting
9. Clint McKay
10. Lauderhill, Florida

CHAPTER 19

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Indian cricketers who made their Test debut under Dhoni

1. ASHEWRETCH JAPUAR
2. URAMIL IJVYA
3. AHSHIRK ANDHAW
4. RATTUS NBYIN

DOUBLES

5. Against which team did Dhoni win his first ever international Man of the Series Award?

6. Who played MS Dhoni's role in his 2016 biopic, 'M.S. Dhoni, The Untold Story'?

BOUNDARIES

7. When Dhoni represented Sporting Union in the 2005 P Sen Trophy, who did he open the batting with, someone who also went on to represent India later?

8. Leading up to the 2007 World Cup, India recorded 3-1 wins over two countries, with Dhoni averaging more than 100 in both the series. Name India's opponents in each case.

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Which former international cricketer was the Match Referee when Dhoni was suspended for 2 ODIs against Sri Lanka in December 2009?

10. In India's first league game of the 2007 World Cup, Dhoni stumped two Bangladeshi batsmen. Name them.

CHAPTER 19
ANSWERS

1. Cheteshwar Pujara
2. Murali Vijay
3. Shikhar Dhawan
4. Stuart Binny
5. Sri Lanka (in 2005)
6. Late Sushant Singh Rajput
7. Wriddhiman Saha
8. West Indies and Sri Lanka
9. Jeff Crowe
10. Shakib Al Hasan and Habibul Bashar

CHAPTER 20

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of bowlers who have dismissed Dhoni for a duck in ODIs

1. AUNNW OZSAY
2. HNJO ASNIGHTS
3. DAAM AZPAM
4. SANHE NKAH

DOUBLES

5. Against which team did Dhoni score a swashbuckling 124 off 107 balls in an ODI in 2009?

6. Which district in Uttarakhand did Dhoni's father leave and moved to Ranchi from, in 1964?

BOUNDARIES

7. Under BCCI's Talent Research Development Wing, which former Bengal player recommended Dhoni to the National Cricket Academy?

8. On 2 September 2007, Dhoni equalled whose international record for the most dismissals in an innings in ODI by catching five English players and stumping one?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. What score did Dhoni manage in India's record-breaking tally of 413 in

the 2007 World Cup group league match against Bermuda? (that was the only match he didn't get out for a duck in that tournament)

10. In 2017, when Kuldeep Yadav took a hattrick in an ODI, whose catch did Dhoni take to help him take the vital third wicket?

Slipping into the captaincy!

Sachin, in interviews later always maintained how he came to admire Dhoni's understanding of situations on the field and his cricketing acumen while standing in the slip cordon and interacting with the explosive keeper batsman. It was on his recommendation that the boy from Ranchi was handed over the reins of the squad who were heading to participate in the World T20 in South Africa in 2007.

The rest as they say is history.

CHAPTER 20
ANSWERS

1. Nuwan Zoysa
2. John Hastings
3. Adam Zampa
4. Ehsan Khan
5. Australia
6. Almora
7. Prakash Poddar
8. Adam Gilchrist
9. 29
10. Pat Cummins

CHAPTER 21

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of bowlers who Dhoni faced in the 2011 World Cup Final

1. ASLITH AGNIALM
2. ARJUS ARVDIN
3. ALIKATRENT ASHLIND
4. ALHARTS REAPER

DOUBLES

5. Which legendary actor played the role of MS Dhoni's father in his biopic?

6. How many runs did Dhoni score in his last Test innings?

BOUNDARIES

7. In the 2012 home series against Pakistan, India succumbed to 29/5 in the first ODI only for Dhoni to lead the recovery with a knock of 113 not out. Which batsman did he share a record seventh wicket partnership with, in that game?

8. At which edition of the World Cup did Dhoni become the first Indian captain to win all group stage games?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni was the first victim of which English bowler's Test match hattrick

in 2011?

10. In 2007, Dhoni famously saved a Test match for India at Lords, scoring 76 not out and forging a crucial last wicket partnership. Who was the tailender he partnered to thwart the English bowlers off?

CHAPTER 21
ANSWERS

1. Lasith Malinga
2. Suraj Randiv
3. Tillakaratne Dilshan
4. Thisara Perera
5. Anupam Kher
6. 24 (not out)
7. Ravichandran Ashwin (they added 115 for the seventh wicket)
8. 2015
9. Stuart Broad
10. S Sreesanth

CHAPTER 22

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of teams Dhoni faced in the inaugural season of Champions League T20

1. ARROWIRS
2. AVIORTIC
3. ARLCENT CISTDIRTS
4. AWAYMAB

D OUBLES

5. At which stadium did the Dhoni led Indian team play its first match of the 2011 World Cup?

6. Before Dhoni, captains from only one country had won more than 100 ODIs while being at helm of their team. Which country did these captains represent?

B OUNDARIES

7. At the 2015 World Cup, who did Dhoni share an unbeaten 195 run partnership with, leading India to a chase of 288?

8. What statistical milestone did Dhoni reach when he caught Jos Buttler off Umesh Yadav's bowling at Lords in 2018?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Thisara Perera dismissed Hardik Pandya, Suresh Raina and Yuvraj Singh

to claim a T20 international hattrick in which stadium in India, which has a pavilion named after MS Dhoni?

10. In the 2016 T20 World Cup, which Bangladesh batsman did Dhoni outpace and run-out to ensure India won by 1 run?

The Dhoni led Indian team famously beat Pakistan in a football style bowl-out at the 2007 ICC T20 World Cup.

It wasn't a coincidence that Captain Cool handed over the ball to part timers like Robin Uthappa and Virender Sehwag in that face off. Apparently, he had been getting his team to practice this every day in the nets and it was agreed that whoever had the best conversion rate, would be shouldering the responsibility if the opportunity presents itself in a game.

Added Trivia

Rohit Sharma apparently had the best record in the practice bowl out sessions, but since he wasn't part of the XI against Pakistan, Dhoni had to go with others as his designated choices.

CHAPTER 22
ANSWERS

1. Warriors
2. Victoria
3. Central Districts
4. Wayamba
5. Sher-e-Bangla Stadium, Mirpur
6. Australia (Allan Border and Ricky Ponting)
7. Suresh Raina
8. 300 ODI catches
9. Jharkhand State Cricket Association International Stadium, Ranchi
10. Mustafizur Rahman

CHAPTER 23

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of members of the Indian team who Dhoni didn't play in the 2007 T20 World Cup Final

1. SHINED ARKKITH
2. DERERVIN EGHAWS
3. HUSYIP AHCLAW
4. ITAJ GARKARA

D OUBLES

5. At which venue did the Dhoni led Indian team lose their World Cup semi final at, in 2015?

6. How much did the bat used by MS Dhoni in the 2011 World Cup Final auction for, post the tournament?

B OUNDARIES

7. Which three keepers had reached the milestone of 300 catches in ODIs before Dhoni?

8. Dhoni became only the third Indian cricketer in 2018 to play a cumulative total of over 500 matches for the country. Which two greats had achieved this feat before him?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. With 9 wickets down in a 2013 Tri Series final against Sri Lanka in West

Indies, Dhoni smashed 15 off the last over to take India home. Who was the number 11 batsman giving him company when he took Shaminda Eranga to the cleaners?

10. N Srinivasan in a recent interview confessed that he had to step in to save Dhoni from being sacked from captaincy in 2011. Against which countries had India lost Test series to (8 straight games)?

CHAPTER 23
ANSWERS

1. Dinesh Karthik
2. Virender Sehwag
3. Piyush Chawla
4. Ajit Agarkar
5. Sydney Cricket Ground
6. 72 lakhs
7. Adam Gilchrist, Mark Boucher and Kumar Sangakkara
8. Sachin Tendulkar and Rahul Dravid
9. Ishant Sharma
10. England and Australia

CHAPTER 24

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of cities Dhoni played finals of ICC events in

1. BANJOHUNGERS
2. AMIBUM
3. AHBRIMMING
4. PRRIMU

DOUBLES

5. How many consecutive matches did the Dhoni led Indian team win, at the 2015 World Cup?

6. Dhoni holds the record for playing the most T20I innings before scoring a fifty. In which innings did he finally eclipse the half century mark?

BOUNDARIES

7. The third T20 fixture against England at Bristol in 2018 saw Dhoni reach the 50 catches milestone at the international level in the game's shortest format. What other record did he set in this game?

8. How many dismissals did Dhoni effect in his last Test?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni's iconic one glove run out to beat Bangladesh in the ICC T20 World Cup in 2016 is well remembered. Which Indian bowler delivered

that final ball to Shuvagata Hom?

10. Despite conceding 27 in 3 overs in the rain curtailed ICC Champions Trophy final against England in 2013, Dhoni decided to give which pacer the Eighteenth Over? It sparked a batting collapse, leaving the hosts with too much to do off Ashwin's last over.

Dhoni's first Test match as captain after taking over the reins from Anil Kumble happened to be Sourav Ganguly's last appearance for the country. Paying homage to one of the greatest skippers the country's cricket team has ever seen thus, Dhoni asked Ganguly to captain the side for the final few overs of the game as India sealed a series-clinching victory against South Africa at Nagpur.

Dada, in those few minutes rolled back the years as he went about his business the only way he knew how to – with utmost flamboyance and passion.

CHAPTER 24
ANSWERS

1. Johannesburg
2. Mumbai
3. Birmingham
4. Mirpur
5. Seven (7)
6. 77th inning (he batted 76 times without scoring a half century in T20s)
7. First to take 5 catches in an innings of a T20 International
8. 9 (eight catches and a stumping)
9. Hardik Pandya
10. Ishant Sharma

CHAPTER 25

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of foreign teammates of Dhoni in the inaugural season of IPL

1. ACOBJ ROMA
2. BILEA KLMORE
3. AMYHAKA INNIT
4. EHSPENT ELFMING

D OUBLES

5. What is the name of the franchisee that Dhoni co-owns in the Hockey India League?

6. Which compatriot of Dhoni also announced his retirement from International Cricket on August 15, 2020?

B OUNDARIES

7. In his last test, Dhoni set a record for effecting the most dismissals in a match by an Indian wicketkeeper. Who broke this record in 2018?

8. In order to negate which two off spinners did Dhoni promote himself in the batting order in the 2011 World Cup final?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. In the 2014 Lords Test, for a prolonged period, whenever a left hander was on strike, Dhoni would step back from his position when a spinner was

bowling. Who was the bowler, who was extracting eccentric bounce from the pitch, thus making Dhoni indulge in this anomaly?

10. 47 times, Dhoni has remained unbeaten in successful chases in ODIs. Which South African legend's record – who has 33 such not-outs – did Dhoni eclipse?

CHAPTER 25
ANSWERS

1. Jacob Oram
2. Albie Morkel
3. Makhaya Ntini
4. Stephen Fleming
5. Ranchi Rays
6. Suresh Raina
7. Wriddhiman Saha
8. Suraj Randiv and Muttiah Muralitharan
9. Ravindra Jadeja
10. Jonty Rhodes

CHAPTER 26

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's opponents from his debut Test

1. ACMDINAH AVSA
2. HAJEN ABRAMKU
3. AHLINT AAASARMWEER
4. ARMVAN AAPTTAUT

DOUBLES

5. What lifestyle brand did Dhoni launch, in February 2016?

6. Which former CSK player and one of many India internationals who made the transformation from the franchisee to national team, did the team re-buy in the 2019 IPL auction?

BOUNDARIES

7. Because of what dispute did CSK have to shift their home matches during the 2018 IPL?

8. Which former Ranji Trophy teammate of Dhoni's was appointed CSK's fielding coach in 2018?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Often with off spinners operating, what TV show would Dhoni name from behind the stumps, when he would want them to bowl the *doosra* ?

10. India has lost only two matches when Dhoni was not out in a chase: if the second instance came against England at the 2019 World Cup, when was the first occurrence?

Movie Star?

Dhoni made a brief appearance in the John Abraham and Genelia D'Souza starrer, 'Hook ya Crook' in 2010. The plot of the movie revolved around a youngster who aspires to play for the Indian cricket team, but his ambition is thwarted as he is sentenced to serve time in prison.

The film never hit the screens though, because of differences between the Director and the Production House. How we wish they had been resolved – would have been worth the while, just for the cameo that is!

CHAPTER 26
ANSWERS

1. Chaminda Vaas
2. Jehan Mubarak
3. Thilan Samaraweera
4. Marvan Atapattu
5. SEVEN
6. Mohit Sharma
7. Cauvery Water Dispute
8. Rajiv Kumar
9. Taarak Mehta Ka *Ooltah* Chashmah
10. Against Pakistan in Kolkata in 2013

CHAPTER 27

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of India's squad members from the ICC U19 World Cup in 2000, which Dhoni was famously not picked for

1. AAYJ ARART
2. ANETARV KYCIR
3. DENETERRI DOHIS
4. PUNA EVDA

DOUBLES

5. Who were the co-owners of the Hockey team, Ranchi Rays along with Dhoni?

6. Which former CSK teammate of Dhoni's is now the teams Batting coach?

BOUNDARIES

7. In Dhoni's last international match, India played 3 other players who have played as specialized keepers in an ODI. Name them.

8. Dhoni stumped two batsmen as India restricted England in their run chase in the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy Final. Who were these two scalps of his?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni has scored 7 Centuries in ODIs batting at No. 5 or lower – he thus holds the record for the same with which two contemporaries of his?

10. In 50 Over World Cups, Dhoni lost only two matches as captain, thus finishing with an incredible win - loss ratio. Which two captains are the only ones with a higher percentage of wins while at the helm of their teams?

CHAPTER 27
ANSWERS

1. Ajay Ratra
2. Ravneet Ricky
3. Reetinder Sodhi
4. Anup Dave
5. Sahara India
6. Michael Hussey
7. KL Rahul, Dinesh Karthik and Rishabh Pant
8. Ian Bell and Jonathan Trott
9. Yuvraj Singh and Jos Buttler
10. Clive Lloyd and Ricky Ponting

CHAPTER 28

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of cities Dhoni has scored an ODI century in

1. APJURI
2. ACTKCUT
3. APRUNG
4. ARAHICK

D OUBLES

5. Which platform streamed ‘Roar of the Lion’, a 5 part docu-drama about Dhoni and his CSK team’s return to IPL after serving a two-year ban?

6. Which teammate of Dhoni’s became the first batsman to score 5,000 runs in the IPL in 2019?

B OUNDARIES

7. Against which team did Dhoni score a crucial 45 before being run out in the last over as India sealed their place in the semi finals of the 2007 T20 World Cup?

8. In what proved to be a masterstroke, which batsman did Dhoni promote to open with Shikhar Dhawan at the 2013 ICC Champions Trophy in England?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. At which venue, named after a tainted political theorist, did Dhoni smash 72 off 46 balls to lead India to a 5 wicket win in an ODI against Pakistan in February 2006?

10. Before Dhoni (148 and 148), two other batsmen had listed exact scores while listing their first ODI and Test tons. Who were they? ***Hint*** – *One of them was from Pakistan; the other from England*

Finishes Off In Style

Chasing 275 in the World Cup final at Wankhede, one would have expected India to stick to their tried and tested batting order. Instead Dhoni promoted himself ahead of Yuvraj, who had enjoyed a stellar run in the tournament till then.

Apparently, it was Sachin who had mentioned the change, and Captain Cool, having played and kept to Muralitharan a lot in the CSK nets, decided to back himself to negate him and the other two off spinners operating for Sri Lanka – Tillakaratne Dilshan and Suraj Randiv.

CHAPTER 28
ANSWERS

1. Jaipur
2. Cuttack
3. Nagpur
4. Karachi
5. Disney Hotstar
6. Suresh Raina
7. South Africa
8. Rohit Sharma
9. Gaddafi Stadium, Lahore
10. Saleem Malik who made exactly 100 in his first ODI and Test tons & Nick Knight who did the same when his first Test and ODI centuries were scores of 113

CHAPTER 29

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of batsmen Dhoni has stumped in International Cricket

1. ENGLN XALLWME
2. LAESA ANNRUGATE
3. AIALTARS OOKC
4. OJE OTOR

D OUBLES

5. If Dhoni was CSK's top run getter in the 2019 IPL season, which two openers ranked number 2 and 3 on the list?

6. What did Sakshi and MS Dhoni name their daughter, who was born in 2015?

B OUNDARIES

7. Which part timer got Dhoni out for a duck in the ICC Champions Trophy 2013 final?

8. In which season of the IPL has Dhoni recorded his highest tally of runs (461)?

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. In a rare instance of Dhoni tinkering with the batting line up at the top of the order for CSK, which bowler did he send it to open against KKR at

Eden Gardens in the 2013 season of IPL?

10. In the Champions League T20 match in Ranchi against Sunrisers Hyderabad in 2013, which bowler did Dhoni hit for 5 sixes in a single over?

CHAPTER 29
ANSWERS

1. Glenn Maxwell
2. Asela Gunaratne
3. Alastair Cook
4. Joe Root
5. Shane Watson and Faf du Plessis
6. Ziva
7. Ravi Bopara
8. 2013. He has scored more than 400 runs in three other seasons – in 2008, 2018 and 2019
9. Ravichandran Ashwin
10. Thisara Perera

CHAPTER 30

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of batsmen Dhoni has had century partnerships with, in Test cricket

1. AFRIN ANPTAH
2. ARLUH ADDIRV
3. ACHINS ALDENKURT
4. ARNEBHUHSWV AMURK

DOUBLES

5. Against which team did Dhoni score a quickfire 75 off 46 balls to lead CSK to an 8 wicket win in IPL 2019?

6. What moniker was the Dhoni led CSK team given ahead of the 2018 IPL, because of the high average age of the players?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni’s first match as India's full-time Test captain was which former Indian captain’s last Test?

8. Under Dhoni’s captaincy, India lost only one match in the 2011 World Cup. At what venue did that happen?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. After playing which country in the 2019 ICC Cricket World Cup did MS Dhoni get reprimanded for sporting wicket keeping gloves with the dagger

insignia?

10. Against RCB during the 2019 IPL, CSK needed 26 off the final over – who was the bowler off who Dhoni hit 3 sixes and a four, but missed the last ball to fall short of the target by just one run?

Question mark over place in team? Let me score a double ton!

After the twin series losses in England and Australia in 2012, former cricketers mentioned how Dhoni didn't deserve to be in the Indian test side, let alone captain it.

The first Test of 2013 saw him score the first ever double ton by an Indian wicketkeeper – a breathtaking 224 in Chennai. The knock laid the foundation for a 4-0 whitewash of the Aussies and ensured no one was questioning his place in the XI anymore.

CHAPTER 30
ANSWERS

1. Irfan Pathan
2. Rahul Dravid
3. Sachin Tendulkar
4. Bhuvneshwar Kumar
5. Rajasthan Royals
6. Dads Army
7. Sourav Ganguly
8. Nagpur
9. South Africa (was India's first match in the tournament)
10. Umesh Yadav

CHAPTER 31

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the batsmen Dhoni caught in his World Record setting T20 effort against England at Bristol in 2018

1. SONJA OYR
2. XLEA LEASH
3. ONIE ARNOMG
4. MILA KNELTTUP

DOUBLES

5. Dhoni was announced Man of the Match in 3 games in IPL 2019. If two of these instances came against Rajasthan Royals, against which side did he win the third award?

6. Against which team did Dhoni play his last T20 international?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni used which three bowlers in the bowl out against Pakistan in the inaugural ICC T20 World Cup in 2007?

8. In the 1999-00 Cooch Behar trophy final, which team did Dhoni's Bihar go down fighting against?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. In the lead up to the 2019 ICC World Cup, against which country did Dhoni score a 78 ball 113 in the last practice match before the tournament?

10. Against Kings XI Punjab in the final league game of IPL 2018, with CSK reeling at 27/3 Dhoni promoted which two bowlers from his team up the batting order to disturb the momentum of the rampaging attack?

CHAPTER 31
ANSWERS

1. Jason Roy
2. Alex Hales
3. Eoin Morgan
4. Liam Plunkett
5. Delhi Capitals
6. Australia, at Bengaluru in February 2019
7. Virender Sehwag, Harbhajan Singh and Robin Uthappa
8. Punjab
9. Bangladesh
10. Harbhajan Singh and Deepak Chahar

CHAPTER 32

S INGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the countries Dhoni has scored a half-century against, in World Cup Cricket

1. ALANIRKS
2. AMBIZWEB
3. AILAARTUS
4. DANELAWZEN

D OUBLES

5. How much did Dhoni score in the 2019 IPL final, one which CSK agonizingly lost to Mumbai Indians?

6. At what venue did CSK play their home matches in 2018, after they were asked to move out of Chennai?

B OUNDARIES

7. Against which team did Dhoni captain India for the last time?

8. In 2005, Dhoni became the second Indian wicket keeper to score a century in ODIs. Who was the first? Coincidentally, he was the non-striker when Dhoni reached the milestone.

O VER BOUNDARIES

9. Which frontline bowler did Dhoni pick for Chennai Super Kings' IPL 2018 playoff against Sunrisers Hyderabad, but didn’t make him bowl even

a single delivery?

10. In the 2nd ODI at Pallekele on August 24, 2017, Sri Lanka had India reeling when Dhoni stitched a record 8th wicket partnership with Bhuvneshwar Kumar to lead India to a win. Which Sri Lankan bowler with a haul of 6/54 had reduced India 131/7?

Sakshi Dhoni before Sachin's 200th and last Test in Mumbai wanted an autograph from the master blaster. Mahi, true to his shy and reserved nature kept delaying it, but on the eve of the match, Mrs. Dhoni had enough.

She dragged him to Sachin's room, and after deliberating again, Dhoni asked him for his autograph. Accounts suggest he didn't even enter the room, worried that he would be intruding!

He was the captain of India, but like millions of others, he was a Sachin fan first!

CHAPTER 32
ANSWERS

1. Sri Lanka
2. Zimbabwe
3. Australia
4. New Zealand
5. 2 (off 8 balls) before he was run out off an Ishan Kishan throw
6. Maharashtra Cricket Stadium, Pune
7. Afghanistan (during 2018 Asia Cup)
8. Rahul Dravid
9. Harbhajan Singh
10. Akila Dananjaya

CHAPTER 33

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the New Zealand players who Dhoni faced in his last international game

1. ARNIMT GILLTUP
2. OSRS - ARLTOY
3. OMT ALMHAT
4. HEYRN CHLONILS

DOUBLES

5. When Dhoni was appointed as captain of CSK in 2008, the franchise also got onboard a high-profile coach. Which former cricketer, who played for both South Africa and Australia was this?

6. Who dismissed Dhoni in his last T20 international?

BOUNDARIES

7. Which Ranji Trophy team, famously didn't pick Dhoni after a short trial at Delhi's Karnail Singh Stadium?

8. Who was the bowler who dismissed Dhoni for a duck in the crucial league game against Sri Lanka in the 2007 ICC World Cup in West Indies?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Till the 2019 season, how many games had CSK played without Dhoni being part of the playing XI?

10. With a minimum criteria of 1,000 runs scored, MS Dhoni has the highest batting average for India of those who batted at No. 6 or above in Test Match cricket – who lies second in that list currently?

CHAPTER 33
ANSWERS

1. Martin Guptill
2. Ross Taylor
3. Tom Latham
4. Henry Nicholls
5. Kepler Wessels
6. Pat Cummins
7. Railways
8. Muttiah Muralitharan
9. Five (5)
10. Vinod Kambli (averages 54.20)

CHAPTER 34

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of wicket keepers apart from Dhoni who have over 600 dismissals in international cricket

1. KRMA REBCHOU
2. MADA CHITGIRLS
3. ARKMU KANAKARAGS
4. NIA AHELY

DOUBLES

5. Which future Delhi Capitals coach was part of Dhoni's CSK side in the 2015 IPL?

6. At what precise time did Dhoni announce his retirement from international cricket on August 15, 2020?

BOUNDARIES

7. In November 2013, Dhoni became the second Indian batsman to aggregate 1,000 or more ODI-runs against Australia. Who was the first?

8. Which English batsman did Dhoni famously dismiss in a Test match at Lords, only for the decision to be reversed by DRS later?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni is known to promote middle order batsmen to open the innings for CSK; one such success story was this India international who had faced

just two balls as an opener over ten seasons of the IPL before his 602-run 2018 season. Which batsman are we talking about here?

10. There is only one bowler in World Cup Cricket history who has bowled the last ball of one edition and the first one of the next. Who is he, and why would this record be related to Dhoni?

India traveled to Zimbabwe in 2016 with a largely inexperienced side. Most of the players had barely played any international cricket before – well, most of them except for one, MS Dhoni himself.

Away from the usual scrutiny and pressure of facing top notch opponents, Dhoni really rediscovered his old self – stories and visuals of them playing video games together or gorging on food are still fresh. Surely, the short tour helped the youngsters, some of who are regulars in the national team settle in the squad easily.

CHAPTER 34
ANSWERS

1. Mark Boucher
2. Adam Gilchrist
3. Kumar Sangakkara
4. Ian Healy
5. Samuel Badree
6. 07:29PM (1929hrs)
7. Sachin Tendulkar
8. Kevin Peterson
9. Ambati Rayudu
10. Nuwan Kulasekara (he bowled the last ball of the 2011 World Cup which Dhoni hit for a 6 and the first of 2015)

CHAPTER 35

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of captains who like Dhoni have scored a Test ton while coming in to bat at number 8

1. ETHAH SKATER
2. ADLIEN ETVITRO
3. ARIMN HANK
4. AMISW MKARA

DOUBLES

5. Who did CSK beat to win the 2014 Champions League T20?

6. Who was at the non-striker's end when Dhoni hit the six to finish the chase in the 2011 World Cup?

BOUNDARIES

7. Which Kings XI Punjab bowler did Dhoni smash for 23 runs in the last over to win a game for Rising Pune Supergiants in 2016?

8. Against which team, did Dhoni score his only runs at the 2007 50 over World Cup?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. In the IPL game in 2019 against Rajasthan Royals in which Dhoni walked on to the pitch to protest an umpiring decision, who hit a last ball six to help CSK win the fixture?

10. In 538 international matches, Dhoni scalped just one wicket. Which contemporary of his, played more matches for a solitary wicket?

CHAPTER 35
ANSWERS

1. Heath Streak
2. Daniel Vettori
3. Imran Khan
4. Wasim Akram
5. Kolkata Knight Riders
6. Yuvraj Singh
7. Axar Patel
8. Bermuda
9. Mitchell Santner
10. Kumar Sangakkara (1 wicket in 594 international matches)

CHAPTER 36

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of Dhoni's CSK teammates who have scored a century in the IPL

1. ACMELHI HESUSY
2. URAMIL AIYVJ
3. RHESUS AIRAN
4. BONNDER CCLULUMM

DOUBLES

5. Which Pakistani bowler dismissed Dhoni in the 2007 T20 World Cup final for just 6?

6. With which all-rounder did Dhoni forge a crucial 116 run partnership in his last ODI (the World Cup Semi Final against New Zealand in 2019)?

BOUNDARIES

7. Who run Dhoni out in the 2015 World Cup Semi Final which India lost to Australia by 95 runs?

8. Like his ODI debut, Dhoni got out for a duck on his T20 international debut too. Which Proteas fast bowler bowled him on this instance?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni is the sixth fastest to reach the milestone of 10,000 runs in ODI cricket (in 273 innings) – amongst the 5 cricketers who precede him in the

list, there are 3 Indians. Name them.

10. How many tied ODIs was Dhoni a part of? (It's just shy of the overall record, held jointly by Aamer Sohail, Inzamam-ul-Haq and Wasim Akram)

N171, that was Dhoni's address in MECON Colony in Ranchi. When the producers of his biopic reached the society though, they realized they couldn't get a good shot of the first-floor apartment. Thus, the family living a floor above was requested to step in and allow the shooting to take place there for a few days.

Contrary to what is believed thus, the house shown in the movie isn't actually the space Dhoni grew up in.

CHAPTER 36
ANSWERS

1. Michael Hussey
2. Murali Vijay
3. Suresh Raina
4. Brendon McCullum
5. Umar Gul
6. Ravindra Jadeja
7. Glenn Maxwell
8. Charles Langeveldt
9. Virat Kohli (205 innings), Sachin Tendulkar (259) and Sourav Ganguly (263)
10. Five (5) – the three mentioned cricketers played in 6 each

CHAPTER 37

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the wicket keepers who like Dhoni have scored a double century in Tests

1. YDAN ELFROW
2. SQUIRMUHF AHRIM
3. BONNRED PRUPUKU
4. ALISMT IRAF

DOUBLES

5. Which team eclipsed CSK to finish top of the IPL table after the group stages in 2018?

6. Dhoni handed which player his T20 international debut in the 2007 World Cup final against Pakistan?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni was the non-striker when Sachin became the first man (Belinda Clark had done it before) to score a double hundred in ODIs. At what venue, named after an Olympic gold medalist was this game played?

8. Dhoni was the second Indian cricketer to be given an honorary title by the Indian Army. Who was the first?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. It's quite rare for wicket keepers from opposing teams to score tons in

the same game but Dhoni was part of one such instance, in Ahmedabad in 2009-10. While he scored 110 for India, who was his opposite number, who scored 154 not out for Sri Lanka?

10. Dhoni stumped Kevin Pietersen off which bowler's first delivery in T20 internationals, which happened to be a wide, at Old Trafford in 2011?

CHAPTER 37
ANSWERS

1. Andy Flower
2. Mushfiqur Rahim
3. Brendon Kuruppu
4. Taslim Arif
5. Sunrisers Hyderabad
6. Yusuf Pathan
7. Captain Roop Singh Stadium, Gwalior
8. Kapil Dev
9. Prasanna Jayawardene
10. Virat Kohli

CHAPTER 38

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the cricketers who like Dhoni have scored over 100 runs and taken 7 catches in a Test Match

1. FFJE NODJU
2. AALM AVISL
3. SNIDE ADLYSIN
4. AMTWHET ANDYEH

DOUBLES

5. Which Australian legend was Dhoni's opposing captain in the first IPL final?

6. Dhoni while being part of an Indian team only ever lost one final in an ICC event. When was this?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni-led India beat Pakistan in a high-pressure World Cup Semi Final in the 2011 World Cup. At what venue did the match take place?

8. Where did Dhoni play his last Test?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. In 2017, Dhoni scored 65 in India's total of 112, thus listing a half century in what was the lowest total in an ODI to feature a half century. Who were India's opponents in the game?

10. At Nagpur, in 2012-13 against England, Dhoni became the second wicket keeper to be dismissed for 99 in Tests; who was the first?

A Military Retreat

After bowing out of the 2019 World Cup in England, Dhoni, an Honorary Lieutenant Colonel trained with his Parachute Regiment of the Territorial Army in Srinagar for close to a month. Back in 2012, he had mentioned how he would like to serve the Army more post his retirement and he surely is living up to that claim.

Given how exuberant he is about it, it wouldn't come as a surprise if he persists with it and devotes more time to it in the years to come.

CHAPTER 38
ANSWERS

1. Jeff Dujon
2. Amal Silva
3. Denis Lindsay
4. Matthew Hayden
5. Shane Warne
6. 2014 ICC T20 World Cup Final (against Sri Lanka)
7. Punjab Cricket Association Stadium, Mohali
8. Melbourne Cricket Ground
9. Sri Lanka
10. Brendon McCullum (for New Zealand against Sri Lanka in Napier in 2004-05)

CHAPTER 39

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the players who have won more IPL titles than Dhoni

1. ABATIM AYURDU
2. HITOR MARSHA
3. ERIKNO ALDOLPR
4. TAHSIL AGNIALM

DOUBLES

5. Who was Dhoni's opposing captain in the ICC Champions Trophy 2013 Final?

6. Which batsman scored a defiant 67 not out to ensure the Dhoni-led CSK team played the final in their first season after the ban in 2016-17?

BOUNDARIES

7. Dhoni's highest IPL score till 2019 is 84 not out. At which stadium did this knock happen?

8. How many times did Dhoni hit a six to win India an ODI?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. What connects Dayle Hadlee, Roger Binny and Asanka Gurusinha amongst several others with Dhoni?

10. Which Kings XI Punjab bowler scalped Suresh Raina, Pawan Negi and

Dhoni to claim a hattrick in the 2014 Champions League T20?

CHAPTER 39
ANSWERS

1. Ambati Rayudu
2. Rohit Sharma
3. Kieron Pollard
4. Lasith Malinga
5. Alastair Cook
6. Faf du Plessis
7. M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru
8. Nine (9)
9. Run out for duck on ODI debut
10. Parvinder Awana

CHAPTER 40

SINGLES

Unscramble the following to reveal names of the cricketers who like Dhoni, were at the other end when six sixes were struck in an over

1. QSAJCUE ALISKL
2. AHGLUM AKPARR
3. NJHO APRINK
4. ELKU CIRONH

DOUBLES

5. The 2011 World Cup final is remembered for the dubious toss. Who was Sri Lanka's captain, who called incomprehensively when Dhoni flipped the coin?

6. When Dhoni was run out by Martin Guptill in his last ODI, who was the batsman at the other end?

BOUNDARIES

7. In the 2011 World Cup final, who was the batsman who got out for Dhoni to step up the order and engage in the iconic partnership with Gautam Gambhir?

8. The only instance of a batsman getting stumped in the first over of a Test Innings happened in Kolkata in 2013, when Dhoni scalped a victim off Ashwin's bowling. Who was the batsman?

OVER BOUNDARIES

9. Dhoni holds the record for scoring most runs in an ODI series of 5 or more matches without getting dismissed. He tallied 212 in October 2011. Who were India's opponents then?

10. Who was India's captain in Dhoni's T20 international debut? That match also happened to be the first India played in the format.

Fitting Day To Call It Quits

Dhoni and his CSK teammate, Suresh Raina decided to call it quits on their international career on August 15, 2020. Explaining the reason behind this, Raina mentioned how if one combined Dhoni's jersey number (7) and his (3), they would get 73 and hence it was fitting they announced it on India's 73rd Independence Day.

CHAPTER 40
ANSWERS

1. Jacques Kallis
2. Ghulam Parkar
3. John Parkin
4. Luke Ronchi
5. Kumar Sangakkara
6. Bhuvneshwar Kumar
7. Virat Kohli
8. Alastair Cook
9. England
10. Virender Sehwag